

Gentlemen

Below is an update on the status of sampling and tasks associated with the permit.

[1] You should have received the Bioassay and Chemistry reports for the February 2000 sampling by now. We will begin scheduling the August sampling about Mid-July. The results of all tests looked fine.

[2] As I mentioned previously, the selenium detection limit looked high (although well below water quality standards). Selenium is one of the parameters that is difficult to analyze in seawater because of matrix interference effects. Therefore, we had the sample reanalyzed. The reanalysis achieved much lower detection limits, the results were mailed to all of you yesterday and you should receive them shortly. Everything looks fine.

[3] As the permit renewal process continues, we also need to get mixing zones associated with the water quality certificate from ASEPA. We applied for mixing zones in June of 1997 at the same time we applied for NPDES renewals. We have never heard a peep from ASEPA. At Carl Goldstein's suggestion I sent a copy of the 1997 application to Sheila Wiegman at ASEPA and asked her to review it. You will get a copy, or a copy of the cover letter, for your files.

[4] We reviewed the potential language of the special conditions for the renewal NPDES permit with Cindy Lin at EPA-Region 9. We made some minor changes in the language and the revised document is attached. Our apologies to the EPA folks for not getting this out to you sooner. We added a few analyses as requested (minor additions) and clarified the language. Please contact us with any questions.

Regards,

Steve and Karen